



## United States Department of the Interior

### NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Natchez Trace Parkway  
Office of the Superintendent  
2680 Natchez Trace Parkway  
Tupelo, MS 38804



In Reply Refer To:  
W46; L330

December 16, 2013

#### Memorandum

To: Mary Risser, Superintendent

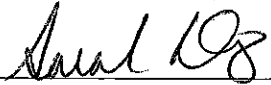
From: Sarah Davis, Chief Ranger

Subject: Closure of the Ross Barnett Reservoir Shoreline at MP114 – Highway 43

On November 20, 2013, a report from Bill Ramsey, Supervisory Park Ranger, was received in my office regarding issues with the Ross Barnett Reservoir shoreline at MP114 at Highway 43. His report indicated severe destruction of natural resources from the roadside to the shoreline; specifically, large amounts of erosion caused by numerous tire ruts, illegal dumping, and illegal fires. Attached you will find a copy of his report which includes photographs of the degradation to the resource area.

The current Park Compendium allows for the Superintendent to close the area described above (see Page 2, Section 1.5(a)(1)), from November 1<sup>st</sup> through March 15<sup>th</sup> of each year. We do not believe this time-frame is sufficient in helping to prevent degradation of the reservoir shoreline. Therefore, we are recommending a permanent closure of this area to all motorized vehicles. This change will help preserve the shoreline, allow visitors to park on the side of the Parkway, and then walk to the shoreline.

This designation will remain in effect within the Superintendent Compendium until changed by a superseding regulation. Therefore, under the authority of Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.5 Closure and Public Use Limits, I recommend the closure of the shoreline along the Ross Barnett Reservoir from all motor vehicle traffic at a distance of 10 feet from the road edge to the water line.

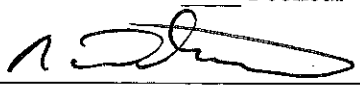
  
Sarah Davis, Chief Ranger

12-16-13

Date

☒ I concur

☐ I do not concur

  
Mary Risser, Superintendent

12/18/13

Date